

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 19788 201320Z
ACTION FBO-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SY-05 OC-06 CCO-00 CIAE-00 A-01
/030 W

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P R 201245Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2251
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MOSCOW 19788

BONN FOR RCO

FRANKFURT FOR RSS

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ABLD, ASEC, ACOM
SUBJ: PROPOSED CHANCERY IMPROVEMENTS FOR FIRE SAFETY-PROPERTY
NO. 01284

REF: (A) STATE 306069 (B) MOSCOW 19463; (C) MOSCOW 19411

1. REPAIRS TO EXTERNAL FIRE SAFETY SYSTEM CONTINUING IAW
REF (A) PARA 3. SCAFFOLDING ERECTED TO SIXTH FLOOR TO PERMIT
CONSTRUCTION OF BALCONY SAFETY RAILINGS TO EASE ACCESS TO FIRE
ESCAPES. WINDOW ON LANDING BETWEEN SIXTH AND SEVENTH FLOOR HAS
BEEN BLOCKED BY INSTALLATION OF IRON GRILL. INTEGRITY OF SECURE
AREAS MAINTAINED.

2. REPAIRS FUNDED OUT OF POST M&R. IT IS DOUBTFUL THAT THERE
WILL BE SIGNIFICANT REDUCTION OF \$2600 ALREADY OBLIGATED AS UPDK
HAS FABRICATED FIRE ESCAPES AND PROGRAMMED RESOURCES.

3. SINCE NO SIGNIFICANT COST SAVINGS LIKELY FROM HALT IN
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INSTALLATION, EMBASSY PLANS CONTINUE WITH CONSTRUCTION
OF FIRE ESCAPE ON BACK OF NORTH WING OF CHANCERY. AS
WING IS SHORTER THAN MAIN BUILDING, HAS NO UNSECURED
CLASSIFIED AREAS AND ONLY ONE STAIRWELL, EXTERNAL FIRE
ESCAPE IS VERY FUNCTIONAL. LACK OF ALTERNATE EGRESS IS
SEVERE SAFETY PROBLEM. ADVICE OF TEAM OF EXPERTS VERY MUCH

SOUGHT AS OUR PORPOSED ALTERNATIVE IS LESS THAN OPTIMAL PARTICULARLY FOR CHILDREN. HOWEVER, DUE TO DIFFICULTY IN GETTING UPDK ASSISTANCE AND SERIOUS NATURE OF PROBLEMS, EMBASSY PLANS THIS STOP-GAP MEASURE PENDING FINAL RESOLUTION/ SUGGESTIONS BY TEAM OF EXPERTS.

4. EMBASSY REQUESTS EARLIEST POSSIBLE ARRIVAL OF FIRE SAFETY TEAM. MEASURES BEING PRESENTLY UNDERTAKEN WERE NEVER CONSIDERED OPTIMAL BUT DO PROVIDE SOME DEGREE OF RELIEF IN CASE OF FIRE ON LOWER FLOORS.

5. EMBASSY APPRECIATES DEPARTMENT'S AND FBO'S INTEREST AND SUPPORT IN THIS MATTER.
MATLOCK

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